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E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/08/2017
TAGS: [MARR](#) [MASS](#) [NATO](#) [PREL](#) [CY](#) [GR](#)
SUBJECT: USG RESPONSE TO INTERAGENCY MISSION VISIT TO
CYPRUS

REF: A. ATHENS 2026 B. ATHENS 1058 AND PREVIOUS

Classified By: EUR: Matt Bryza for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. C) On October 2-4, an Interagency Team from Washington visited Cyprus to survey construction and security of Greek military installations being built to bring the Government of Greece (GOG) into full compliance with its obligations to the United States regarding U.S.-origin defense articles. Upon its return, the delegation briefed State,s EUR and PM bureaus that (1) the Government of Greece (GOG) had made significantly more progress than expected in constructing adjacent facilities; (2) GOG officials maintained a positive tone and constructive approach and were receptive to concerns and suggestions presented by the team; and (3) GOG progress was indicative of a sincere attempt by the GOG to comply fully with its obligations regarding U.S.-origin defense articles.

¶2. (C) In light of the above factors and the GOG,s commitment to resolve all outstanding issues as presented in an exchange of letters (currently being drafted), the Department has approved the transfer of Multiple Launch Rocket Systems and howitzer spares to Greece.

¶3. (C) Given the positive tone and approach of the verification visit, and provided the GOG confirms that all of the pending issues identified in the exchange of notes being drafted will be addressed in the manner outlined, the USG will consider the matter notified to the U.S. Congress in 2004 (?) under Section 3 of the Arms Export Control Act to have been fully and satisfactorily resolved. Washington will work with Embassies Athens and Nicosia to confirm completion of all outstanding issues.

¶4. (C) Per DSCA, timeline on the release of the requested MLRS system is as follows:

Step 1: LOA Payment schedule will need to be rewritten and LOA cleared for counter-signature: 10 days to 2 weeks from release.

Step 2: LOA Agreed upon and signed by Greece: 2-3 months

Step 3: Contracting with Lockheed-Martin: 1 month

Step 4: Lockheed Martin preparation of MLRS assets: Time undetermined.

Step 5: Delivery to freight forwarder and on to Greece.

(NOTE: DSCA has already completed Step 1 following Washington decision, and will be notified to proceed with the following steps. END NOTE)

¶5. (SBU) Department greatly appreciates Embassies Athens' and Nicosia's efforts in resolving this longstanding irritant in our bilateral relationship with Greece.
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